

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, EEC

SUBJECT: BILATERAL US/EC DISCUSSIONS ON (A) SUBSIDIES
AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES IN THE MTN AND (B)
TEXTILES

REF: EC BRUSSELS 1044

1. SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES IN THE MTN: MEYNELL, EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR IN CHARGE OF COUNTERVAILING AND DUMPING, HAS APPROACHED THE MISSION ON BEHALF OF GALLAGHER, COMMISSION DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, TO SUGGEST A DATE FOR THE US/EC BILATERAL ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES IN THE MTNS, WHICH HAD BEEN AGREED AT THE DENT/SOAMES MEETING OF JANUARY 22.

2. GALLAGHER PROPOSES THAT THE DISCUSSIONS TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON, PREFERABLY ON FEBRUARY 25 OR ALTERNATIVELY ON FEBRUARY 24 (GALLAGHER HAS OTHER WORK TO DO IN THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW YORK DELEGATION, WHICH HE INTENDS TO HANDLE ON THE SAME TRIP). MEYNELL STATED THAT AFTER ONE DAY OF HIGH-LEVEL TALKS, WHICH WOULD TRY TO IDENTIFY SOME VISION OF WHERE THE SUBSIDY/COUNTERVAILING DUTY EXERCISE MIGHT PROPERLY BE HEADING, HE WOULD

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BE PERFECTLY WILLING TO REMAIN BEHIND ALONG WITH BESELER FOR

FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON DETAILS WITH THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN THE US GOVERNMENT. MEYNELL FELT THAT GENERAL ANTI-DUMPING QUESTIONS WOULD BE RELEVANT TO THE DISCUSSION.

3. MEYNELL SAID THAT THE COMMISSION UNDERSTOOD THAT THE SUBSIDY/COUNTERVAILING TALKS WOULD INVOLVE TREASURY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MACDONALD, BUT IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL TO HAVE A LIST OF OTHER US PARTICIPANTS. THE COMMISSION IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER THERE WOULD BE REPRESENTATION FROM THE US MTN DELEGATION AT GENEVA (THE EC WILL PROBABLY FOLLOW THE US LEAD ON THIS LATTER POINT).

4. TEXTILES: DURING THE SAME CONVERSATION MEYNELL REFERRED TO HIS WILLINGNESS TO HOLD A TRILATERAL MEETING ON TEXTILES IN WASHINGTON DURING THE MONTH OF MAY (REFTEL). IN VIEW OF HIS PLANNED TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES IN LATE FEBRUARY IN CONNECTION WITH SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA IF HE COULD ALSO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OCCASION TO DISCUSS TEXTILE QUESTIONS WITH US OFFICIALS. HE WOULD NOT BE ACCOMPANIED BY A LARGE DELEGATION, AS HE HAD BEEN IN THE LONDON MEETING, BUT WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY ALONE IN THE TEXTILE DISCUSSIONS.

5. SUMMARY: THUS, THE COMMISSION'S PLANS WOULD BE FOR A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES ON FEBRUARY 25 INVOLVING GALLAGHER, A ONE-DAY LOWER-LEVEL CONTINUATION ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES INVOLVING ONLY MEYNELL AND BESELER, AND A ONE-DAY MEETING ON TEXTILE QUESTIONS WITH MEYNELL ALONE. IF THESE DATES WERE NOT SATISFACTORY TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THEN THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL IS THAT THEY BE ADVANCED BY ONE DAY, WITH THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING BEGINNING ON FEBRUARY 24.

6. WE TOLD MEYNELL THAT WE WOULD RELAY THESE SUGGESTIONS TO WASHINGTON AND GIVE HIM A RESPONSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
MORRIS

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Message Attributes

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